

TED POWELL IS THE NEW WYCOMBE MANAGER

TED POWELL, one of the best known names in non-league football, will take over as manager of Wycombe Wanderers on July 1. The club announced the new appointment this week.

Powell, familiar to Wycombe fans after spending two seasons at Loakes Park as a player, will succeed Brian Lee who has made himself far and away the most successful manager of Wycombe in the 90 year history of the club.

Wanderers chairman, Reg Williams, issued the following statement to the 'Free Press':

"Earlier this year Brian Lee accepted a request from the committee to continue as team manager of the club until the end of the current season, and he would then in the light of circumstances make a decision as to whether he would be in a position to continue in his current capacity with the club.

"Brian has now informed the club that he would not be able to continue as team manager next season due to the mounting pressure of work at Bisham Abbey.

"Brian has intimated that he would like to continue his association with the club, and this situation will be discussed by the committee at a future date.

"Consideration has been given by the committee of the appointment of a new manager and the former Wycombe and England player, Ted Powell, has been offered the post. Ted has accepted the post, and his current club, Sutton United, have been informed of the position. Mr. Powell will

STORY BY STUART EARP

commence his duties when the Wanderers return from Italy at the end of June.

"I am sure that all of our supporters will join me in congratulating Brian on his wonderful record as manager and thank him for the pleasures and thrills that he has supplied at Loakes Park.

"Likewise, we welcome Ted to the club. His stay with us as a player stamped him as a man of great skills and a shrewd appreciation of the finer points of the game. We look forward to his arrival with confidence.

Brian Lee will still be in charge of the team until the end of June which will incorporate the club's Anglo-Italian Non-League Trophy matches in Italy. He said this week: "We needed a special man for this job and I have confidence in Ted as a player and as a person. He has a similar attitude to the game as myself and I've always tried to play fairly and skilfully. I think he has the right background as both a player and manager in the league."

As for Brian himself, he hopes to stay with the club in some capacity, but felt he could not possibly enjoy any other job as much as the manager's.

During his spell with Wycombe from 1969-76, he has brought them unprecedented success with four Isthmian League titles and three F.A. Cup runs, including those memorable matches with Middlesbrough.

It was Brian Lee who signed Powell in 1970. Ted had previously played for Sutton on leaving Loughborough College and spent six seasons with the club before coming

to Loakes Park. While at Wycombe he quickly demonstrated why he was regarded as one of the best players in the amateur game. His cool temperament and outstanding ability won him 51 England Amateur International caps, skipping the side on many occasions.

In 1973, Ted returned to his old club Sutton as player-manager and took over from another former Wycombe boss, Sid Cann. He started as player-manager but decided to temporarily give up playing last season to concentrate exclusively on management. During his three years there he took them to an Amateur Cup quarter-final, a high league placing and the first round of the F.A. Cup, where they held Bournemouth to a replay. During his time he was considered for a job as national coach to the Hong Kong F.A. but decided not to accept the offer. He is a qualified F.A. and Staff coach.

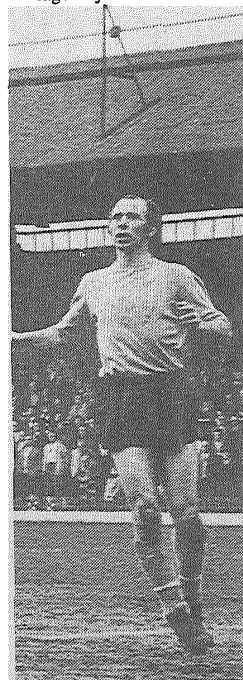
Official reaction from Sutton was obviously one of disappointment and after discussions with club chairman Peter Molloy, it was decided that Ted would leave the club after Tuesday night's game at Staines. For the remainder of the season he will be watching players and will obviously be spending some of his time with Wanderers.

A schoolteacher at Sutton Manor High School where he takes P.E. and scripture, Ted said he was looking forward to the challenge at Wycombe.

"I enjoyed my stay at Sutton as both player and manager but I need more experience. Wycombe is a fine club and this is a job that

anyone in non-league football would like. The crowd have always been great at Wycombe while the club officials have an ambitious outlook."

One of the first things Powell has done is to approach assistant manager John Reardon to stay on as his number two next season. John has been Brian Lee's right-hand man for seven years and will make a decision in the near future. He has given outstanding service to the club over the years and it would be a great loss if he decided to try for a manager's job further afield.



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... new manager